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SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

DEFECTOR RECEPTION CENTER

COUNTRY Hungary

DATE DISTR. 30 Sept 53

SUBJECT Miscellaneous Information on the Soviet
and Hungarian Armies in Hungary

NO. OF PAGES 2

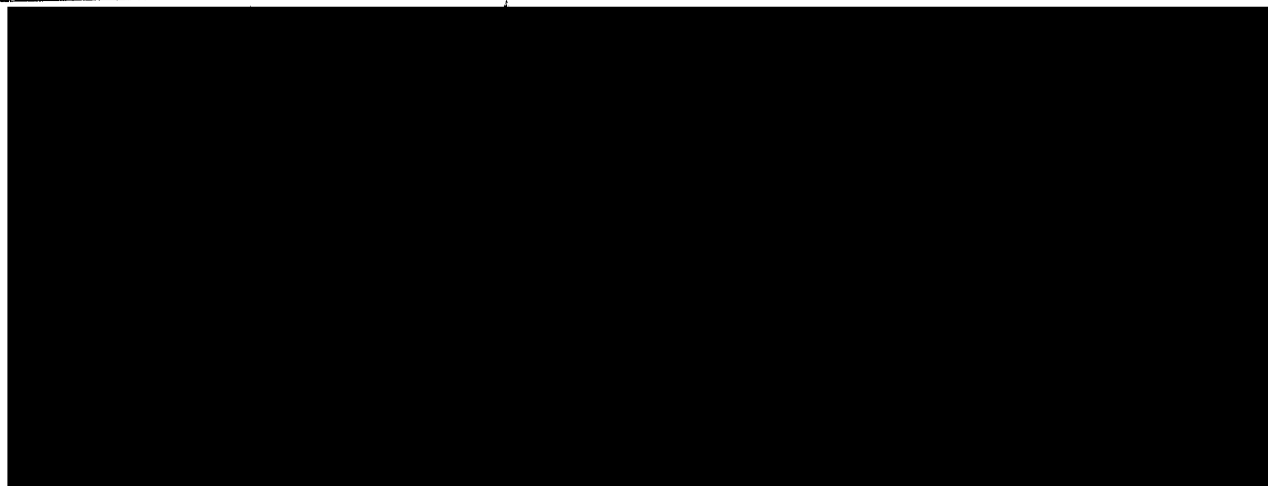
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ACQUIRED [REDACTED] 25X1ANO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE
ACQUIRED BY SOURCE [REDACTED]SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

DATE OF INFORMATION [REDACTED]

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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- 25X1X 1. I heard from [REDACTED] a construction engineer, that in 1951 construction was started on a joint Soviet-Hungarian Army Headquarters. He revealed no details, except that it was a top secret project and the location was northwest of Budapest, in the triangular mountainous area bordered by Budapest, Vac N 47-46, E 19-087, and Komarom N 47-45, E 18-067.
2. I heard of Soviet troops stationed in Jaszbereny N 47-30, E 19-557 in 1953, but I know no other details.
- 25X1X 3. [REDACTED] I saw Soviet Army engineers building a pontoon bridge across the Danube, halfway between Budapest and Komarom. I passed by on the train and could see numerous Soviet troops and tents on the island where the bridge was being erected, but I can give no other details.

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

Date of Info.—The date or dates on which, or between which, the events described in the report occurred or the conditions described existed.

Place Acquired.—The place where the information was first acquired by a controlled individual. A date following in parentheses indicates when the information was acquired.

Source Description.—A description of the individual from whom, and, when pertinent, of any other individual through whom the information was received.

Source Evaluation.—An indication of the reliability of a source, expressed either verbally or by means of a letter inserted parenthetically in the source description. Reliability includes competence, objectivity, honesty, and other factors likely to affect the accuracy of the source's reports. The source evaluation is definitive in the sense that it reflects everything known about the source, including his previous record of reporting. If the report was received from one source through another, each is evaluated separately. The key follows:

A: Completely reliable. B: Usually reliable. C: Fairly reliable. D: Not usually reliable.
E: Not reliable (applied to sources of doubtful honesty or loyalty, regardless of their competence). F: Reliability cannot be judged (applied to untested or insufficiently tested sources).

Appraisal of Content.—A tentative opinion by the issuing office as to the probable truth of the report, expressed either verbally or by means of a number from 1 through 6. It is based on immediately available information which may or may not be complete, and does not purport to constitute final evaluation. The key follows:

1: Confirmed by other independent and reliable sources. 2: Probably true. 3: Possibly true.
4: Doubtful. 5: Probably false. 6: Cannot be judged. Documentary: Based on an original document which has been seen by a staff member of the issuing office.

The appraisal of content is independent of the source evaluation. A "B" source may submit a "4" report; and "E" source may submit a "1" report. Reliable sources tend to produce accurate reports, and conversely a series of accurate reports tends to establish the reliability of the source, but there is no necessary correlation in any particular instance.

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4. [REDACTED] while riding a train at night, I saw a big supply depot about 500 m. north of the railroad tracks near Torokbalint, N 47-26, E 18-557. The depot was fenced in by barbed wire, had many one-story buildings and several observation towers. I heard from other train passengers that the depot was used to store artillery ammunition. The depot was lit up by searchlights which turned on and off.

5. From 1950 to 1953, in Army parades in Hungary I saw Soviet T/34 tanks manned by Hungarian troops, and also the following trucks:

CSEPEL - Hungarian-made two or three ton trucks, similar to the pre-World War II Austrian-made STEYR trucks.

ZIS - Soviet-made, 2½ - 3 ton trucks, similar to US GMC trucks.

DODGE - US-made, 1½ ton trucks.

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7. To the best of my knowledge, all males had to register with the induction board upon reaching the age of 18. I do not recall the dates and ages of actual induction. In Budapest, in the Spring of 1953, I saw placards on the cement pillars calling for all 18-year-olds to register for induction. I believe that the term of service was two years for conscripts, and lifetime for officers and career NCO's, but I am not sure. I do not know what classes were in service in 1953, and I do not know the percentage of, or reasons for, deferments, and rejections.

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[REDACTED] At the end of the first summer of training, they were promoted to corporal; at the end of the second year to sergeant; at the end of the third year to SFC; and, if of good political background and if they could pass a board, they were commissioned in the Reserve Corps after four or five years. I do not know whether or not there were enlisted or commissioned women in the Reserves or in the Army. I heard that political unreliaables were conscripted into labor battalions. I have no further information on manpower and Reserves.

8. I cannot recall any specific morale incidents in the Army. In my opinion, Hungarian Army officers and career NCO's were absolutely loyal to the Communist regime. These men were of low-level intelligence, had a good life, were thoroughly indoctrinated, and would fight fanatically for the regime. All old (pre-1945) officers and career NCO's were demobilized. However, not all of the conscripts were fully convinced by the political indoctrination. I believe that in case of war some soldiers might desert, but that a great many would fight as ordered.

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9. The official propaganda [REDACTED] was pro-Soviet, anti-Western, and anti-religious. I never saw troops in Catholic or Protestant churches.

10. I heard from students undergoing summer military training that there was a signal interception unit in the Hungarian Army, which monitored telephone and radio traffic, and intercepted messages in German, French, English, and other languages. I do not know any further details.

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